This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The valve mechanism according to claim 4~~6~~ in which the ~~linkage means comprises a~~ crank arm is connected to the rotatable ~~mountings of the~~ butterfly, and a tension spring ~~connecting~~ connects the crank arm to a fixed point so as to bias it to the closed position, the chemically sensitive ~~device~~ fuse being arranged to retain the crank arm in the open position.

6. (Currently Amended) A valve mechanism ~~according to claim 4 in which~~ including a movable closure member, means for resiliently biasing the movable member towards a first position, and linkage means for retaining the movable member in a second position, the linkage means including a chemically sensitive fuse which is arranged to release in the presence of a contaminant,

the first position and second position being respective closed and open positions or respective open and closed positions,

the movable closure member being a butterfly which is rotatably mounted in a conduit so as to close the conduit when the chemically sensitive fuse is activated,

the chemically sensitive ~~device~~ fuse ~~comprises~~ being an elongate member having end caps which are an interference fit on each end, one of ~~which~~ the end caps ~~connects~~ being

connected to ~~the~~ a crank arm so that the end cap is released when the surface of the chemically sensitive ~~member~~ fuse is degraded by the contaminant.

7. (New) A valve mechanism including a movable closure member, means for resiliently biasing the closure member toward a first position, and linkage means for retaining the closure member in a second position, the linkage means including a member whose surface is chemically sensitive to the presence of a contaminant, the surface being normally held in engagement with a co-operating member of the mechanism by friction, whereby the surface is degraded when the contaminant is present so that the frictional engagement is lost, releasing the linkage means.

8. (New) The valve mechanism according to claim 7 in which the chemically sensitive member comprises an elongate member and the co-operating member comprises an end cap which is frictionally fitted onto one end of the chemically sensitive member.